

March 20, 1984

Memo to File:

RE: U. S. Steel Corporation
Desert Mound
ACT/021/003
Iron County, Utah

Members of the "A" Team (P. Grubaugh-Littig, M. Boucek, E. Hooper, S. Cox, T. Munson and J. Whitehead) met Roy Benson (Superintendent of the Desert Mound Operations, U. S. Steel Corporation [USSC]) and Lawrence Ashdown (Supervisor Western Ore Division, Wyoming, for USSC) on March 15, 1984 at the Desert Mound Mine. Visual inspection of the present reclamation work was observed and questions were asked and comments given.

The Division letter (dated February 16, 1984) to USSC was reviewed. The following questions were discussed: (numbering corresponds to the February 16, 1984 letter)

- 1.1 The regrading efforts need to be narrated in a reclamation report. The stabilization of the waste dumps indicated to be at a 38° angle of repose must also be included in the narration and the information why USSC believes the dumps are stable.
- 1.2 USSC will commit to monitor tension cracks and slippage. The cracks on the dump presently are considered to be settling cracks. Although USSC firmly believes that there will not be a dump failure (they have never had one and some dumps are over 30 years old), they would pose mitigation at the point in the future.
- 2.1 USSC should formally request a variance to retain the impoundment again (Rule M-10[3]). — *FOR MT. LION PIT*
- 2.2.1 to 2.2.2.1

A channel has already been developed directing the overflow along the western edge of the pit access road. Several large boulders have been placed to restrict vehicle access to the lower pit and allow free flow of potential impoundment overflow.

- 2.2.3 The water levels of the lake will not be monitored from now on.
- 2.3 Seeding will be undertaken on the benches of the waste dumps.
3. The "ant hills" (owned by Utah International) will probably not be used by USSC for revegetation. It is their option. However, the problem of reclamation responsibility of the ant hill areas would become USSC's.

MEMO TO FILE
ACT/021/003
March 20, 1984
Page 2

- 3.4.1 There was some discussion about the addition of phosphate and potassium in fertilizer to the "ant hills." This discussion evolved into the possibility of using PO₄ and K type fertilizer for all of the areas. This is a matter of professional judgment for the Division soils specialists, as they differ on their recommendation.
- 4.0 Fencing has been installed on all accessible areas. There is a double barrier of dirt dumped on the access road to aid in prohibiting access as well as the fence.
- 5.0 It was stated that the Blackhawk fines area (dumps, roads and disturbed area) have been reclaimed.
- 6.0 USSC stated that only some of the powerlines will be removed as they are the property of UP&L. USSC wishes to maintain the water well in the event that there may be activity in the future at this site.
- 7.0 The large haul road may be taken over by the County. There is an attempt by USSC to clear the easement and clear title to this road. However, if the county and USSC do not come to an agreement within a certain time frame, USSC will then reclaim the property.
- 8.0 USSC may attempt to do some revegetation this spring because of the heavy precipitation.
- 8.1 and 8.2

All areas to be reclaimed will be ripped and scarified (mostly concentrated on the flat topped areas, hauls roads, etc.).
- 8.3 The seeding will be drilled.
- 8.4 Mulching is an option that USSC may choose in the future.
- 8.5 Irrigation will probably not be done because USSC does not plan to plant in the summer months.
- 8.8 The reclaimed areas will be monitored annually.
- 9.0 The removal of the structures will be a two part process. Some of the equipment (shovels, cables, etc.) will be transferred to other USSC sites. After all of the transferring is done, the structures remaining will be salvaged and then torn down.
10. The schedule (or timetable) for reclamation will be submitted by the company in a forthcoming letter.

MEMO TO FILE
ACT/021/003
March 20, 1984
Page 3

11. The release of the bond will depend on revegetation success (as well as completion of the reclamation). The revegetation success standard (70 percent of what) will need to be established by the reclamation biologist in the future.

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PGL/btb

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